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13 March 1965

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# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE  
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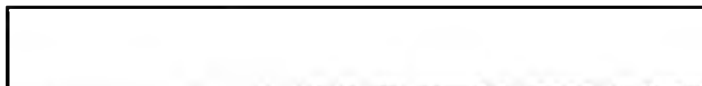


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**\*Vietnam:** Peiping continues to reject any suggestion of a negotiated settlement in Vietnam in an official government statement on 12 March.

The statement, which is toughly worded but breaks no new ground and raises no new threat, echoes earlier Vietnamese Communist protests against the landing of US Marines at Da Nang. It asserts the landing strikes "at the very heart of the Geneva agreements," and is "a declaration of the bankruptcy" of US special warfare strategy. Claiming the Marines had been dispatched because Da Nang is not safe, the statement taunts that "no forest or road in the whole of southern Vietnam is safe," and infers that the US has therefore "embarked on the path of a war of the Korean type, willy-nilly."

The statement also asserts the US action has further blocked the way to a political settlement of the Vietnam question and reiterates Peiping's categorical demand for complete withdrawal from Vietnam as "the channel, and the only channel for a political settlement."

Claiming that recent US press articles indicated the US had now decided to bomb China, the statement retorts that "the Chinese people are not afraid of such stuff" and are prepared.

The acrimonious exchange between Moscow and Peiping over the 4 March demonstration against the US Embassy in Moscow continues. The Soviets, who have previously accused the Chinese of organizing the demonstrations, sent an official note yesterday to the Chinese claiming that Peiping has deliberately distorted the facts surrounding the demonstration against the US Embassy in order to mount a "clamorous propaganda campaign," against the USSR.

(continued)

Categorically rejecting the charge of alleged Soviet brutality against Chinese students during the incident, the note asserted that the USSR is taking "practical measures" to aid the DRV and went on to deliver an implied rebuke to Peiping by contrasting such "resolute practical steps to curb aggression" with the demonstration which Moscow has labelled an act of "hooliganism."

The note chided Peiping for actions which "can only give joy" to forces hoping for a split between China and the USSR, and it sarcastically pointed out that the Chinese themselves had never permitted any such incidents against foreign embassies. Although the note warns of possible punishment for future demonstrators, no action has been reported taken against the participants of the 4 March demonstration.

[In South Vietnam the Vietnamese Air Force went on an alert yesterday at Bien Hoa and Tan Son Nhut air bases in reaction to rumors of a possible coup attempt and Catholic demonstrations in Saigon. There have been no unusual troop movements within South Vietnam and the alert was apparently confined to the Air Force which continued to fly combat missions against the Viet Cong.]

The Quat government yesterday outlined a program of "total struggle" against the Communists, whose defeat was termed necessary before the Vietnamese people's long-frustrated desire for peace can be realized. The official policy statement also promised a campaign against "subversive moves aiming at a peace conference designed to neutralize Vietnam."

Goals contained in the statement included reforms in the management of the armed forces, development of fortified hamlets, and improvement of paramilitary forces. Most of the actions promised in the statement had been attempted by previous regimes; whether the Quat regime can be any more effective in carrying them out remains to be seen.

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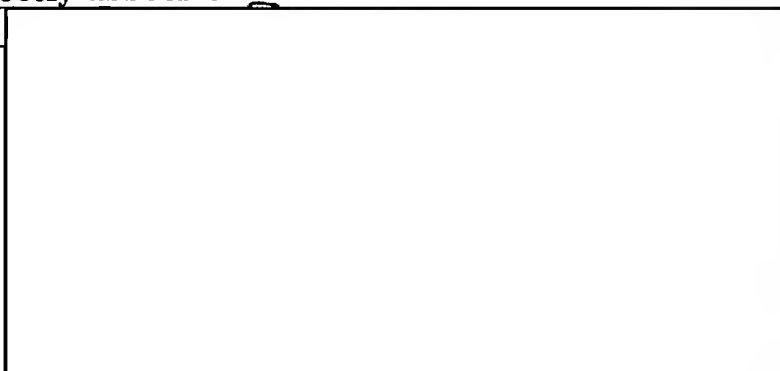
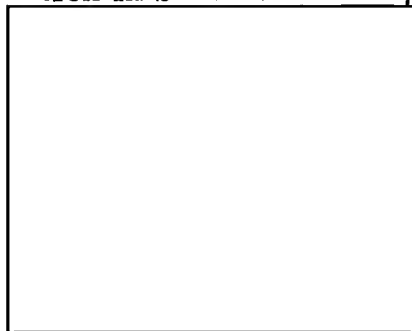


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There have been no Chinese, North Vietnamese or Soviet military developments during the past 24 hours which can be directly associated with the situation in South Vietnam.

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Indonesia: Continuing their pressure on all political fronts, the Indonesian Communists now appear to be moving against rival Islamic youth organizations.

The Communists next major target seems to be the HMI, an Islamic student organization, which they have asked Sukarno to ban. To justify their demand, the Communists cite "terrorist activities" in Java for which they claim the HMI is responsible.

For several months, clashes have occurred with increasing frequency in East Java between militant Moslems and Communists. Until recently local officials have done little to prevent the incidents, and the Communists have not previously given them much publicity.

Although other Moslem youth groups have been involved in the anti-Communist incidents, probably more prominently than the HMI, the latter is the largest Indonesian student organization on university campuses and the most effective anti-Communist youth arm. Its disappearance would prepare the way for eventual Communist capture of the Indonesian university system.

The Communists apparently are laying the groundwork for dealing with the other groups by charging that the US is supporting an anti-Communist movement in East Java. In a recent speech, Sukarno claimed that Islamic organizations were being used for subversion, and an eventual government move against them is likely.

The Communists, meanwhile, are publicly demanding new demonstrations against American property. Sukarno's latest anti-American gesture is an order to halt preparations for opening the Indonesian pavilion at the New York World's Fair.

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NOTES

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Western Europe - US: [The ambivalent attitude in Europe toward the US payments deficit is becoming increasingly evident as corrective measures, which many European officials strongly urged, begin to show promise of being effective. The London Times, for example, is already pointing out that a sharp decrease in US investments abroad will have a detrimental impact on European stock markets and industrial development. The EEC Commission staff, which now believes that the US will have some success in curbing its dollar outflow, notes that this may have "far-reaching" and presumably adverse implications for Europe.]

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Europe - Latin America: Leaders of European Christian Democratic parties are reported to have agreed at a meeting in Vienna last month that Europe should supplement US assistance to Latin American countries. These leaders feel that the European parties contributed to the political success of Chilean President Frei, and they are interested in providing assistance to other Christian Democratic movements in Latin America. A Christian Democratic delegation is expected to visit Washington, perhaps this spring, to discuss prospects for coordinating such projects with both private and US Government programs.

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